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TUESDAY

DECEMBER 6, 2011



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VOLUME 107, NUMBER 46

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HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

An early morning fire in the 900 block of E. 12th Street claimed the life of a Big Spring woman today. Preliminary indications point to combustibles left too near a space heater as a cause of the blaze.

Woman dies in house fire

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

Officials are investigating the cause of a house fire that claimed the life of a Big Spring woman early today.

Dora Lewis, no age given, was declared dead at Scenic Mountain Medical Center from injuries sustained in the fire, Big Spring Fire Marshal Carl Condray said.

Fire and emergency medical service units responded to the 900 block of E. 12th Street at approximately 3:40 a.m. today to find a residence

fully engulfed by flames. The fire was brought under control within an hour, but firefighters remained on the scene until shortly after 6 a.m. to guard against flare-ups.

No other injuries were reported in the incident, Condray said.

The victim's house was described as a total loss, but no other property sustained significant damage, officials said.

Condray said the cause of the fire is still under investigation, but preliminary indications are that it was accidental.

"It appears there were combustibles that came in contact with a space heater and that's what caused the fire," he said. "But that's very preliminary at this time."

Condray urged people to use extreme caution when using portable appliances to heat their homes.

"People need to be very, very careful (when using space heaters)," Condray said. "Although they can be used quite safely, under the wrong set of circumstances,

See **FIRE**, Page 3A

Robbery suspect sought

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

The Big Spring Police Department is investigating a robbery that took place during the early morning hours today at a 7-Eleven convenience store.

According to Sgt. Tony Everett, BSPD public information officer, the robbery was reported at approximately 3:09 a.m. at the local convenience store, located at 1801 S. Gregg St.

"Officers were dispatched to the store in reference to a robbery," Everett said. "Officers were advised by the clerk that a Hispanic female had just robbed the store. She was described as heavy-set, wearing blue jeans, a dark jacket and a toboggan."

"The clerk stated the suspect was armed with a rifle or a shotgun, pointed it at the victim and demanded money. The clerk complied and the suspect fled the store on foot to the north side of the store."

Anyone with information regarding this or any other crime is encouraged to contact the BSPD at 432-264-2550 or Big Spring Area Crimestoppers at 263-TIPS (8477) or 264-TIPS (8477).

College Luminaria planned Thursday

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

Howard College's Christmas gift to the community will be unveiled Thursday when HC holds its annual Luminaria ceremony.

See **LUMINARIA**, Page 3A

No letup in wintry weather

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

Monday's wintry weather — which is expected to extend well into today with freezing

temperatures and icy conditions not likely to give way until Wednesday — served as an effective pop-quiz for Crossroads drivers who may have wondered whether or not they were ready for inclement conditions.

However, with plenty of winter still to come, local emergency and law enforcement officials say this is the wrong time to be issuing a sigh of relief.

"Things were fairly quiet Monday morning. We had some minor traffic accidents caused by the icy

Classes delayed; meeting postponed

Howard County school districts got a late start again today because of the icy conditions. Students reported at 10 a.m. at all three districts, officials said.

At least one event scheduled for tonight has been postponed. The Compassionate Friends' candlelight service, set for 7:30 p.m. at First Baptist Church, will be held at a later date.

For more information, call 393-5799 or 263-3726.

weather, but nothing major," Sgt. Tony Everett, public information officer with the Big Spring Police Department, said Monday afternoon. "The

Texas Department of Transportation guys did a really good job of taking care of the problem areas, which is a huge help. In a situation like this, you'd like to think we're out of the woods, but we're a long ways from that ... a really long ways."

Everett was referring to wet road conditions, combined with temperatures expected to drop into the low-to-mid 20s most of this week. Add to that several months before the threat of winter storms are gone, and the need for Crossroads residents to remain on their toes becomes very important.

"It's not really complicated. If you don't have to leave your home in this kind of weather, don't," Everett said firmly.

"The easiest way to avoid an accident in these kinds of driving conditions is to stay off the roadways. Unfortunately, that's not always an option. The second most important rule is to give yourself plenty of extra time to

See **WINTER**, Page 3A



Dec. 6
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Obituaries

Joann Elaine Castleberry



Joann Elaine Castleberry, 66, of Stanton died Sunday, Dec. 4, 2011, at her residence. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 7, 2011, at Belvue Church of Christ with Bill Welsh officiating. Interment will follow at Evergreen Cemetery.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2011, at the funeral home.

She was born Nov. 29, 1945, in Big Spring, Texas, and married Denton Castleberry on Nov. 29, 1979. He preceded her in death Aug. 8, 1987.

Joann was a longtime resident of Martin County. She was a loving wife, mother, sister and grandmother.

Survivors include one son, Tim Castleberry; one daughter, Lisa Atchison and husband Jimbo; four grandsons, Brandon Audas, Jeremy Audas, Austin Baker and Andy Baker; a great-grandson, Jackson Audas; two sisters, Linda Shanks and husband Terry and Nelda Evans and husband Glen; two brothers, Johnny Wells and wife Jan and Theodore Wells and wife Vicki.

She was also preceded in death by her parents, Billy Joe and Joyce Wells.

The family suggests memorials be made to Turning Point, 2000 Maurice Rd., Odessa, Texas 79763.

Arrangements are under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton. Online condolences can be made at: www.npwelch.com

Paid obituary

Modesto C. Requejo



Modesto C. Requejo, 64, of Big Spring died Saturday, Dec. 3, 2011, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 2:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8, 2011, at Myers & Smith Funeral Home with Marcos Arizemendi Jr. officiating. Burial will be at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

He was born Feb. 24, 1947, in Mexico to Paula and Tomas Requejo. He moved to Howard County in 1974 from Mexico. He was a retired welder, having worked at Williams Fabrication. He was a Jehovah's Witness.

He is survived by three daughters, Agostina Requejo, Angie Requejo and husband Arturo Jackson and Norma Requejo, all of Big Spring; three sons, Ernesto Requejo and wife Zuleika of Midland, Josue Requejo of Big Spring and Daniel Requejo of Walland, Tenn.; four brothers, Carlos Requejo and wife Cuca, Jesus Requejo and wife Tina and Manuel Requejo and wife Elva, all of Mexico, and Roberto Vargas and wife Suki of Midland; seven grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two nieces.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com

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at www.bigspringherald.com

Isaac H. LaRue



Isaac H. LaRue, 74, of Coahoma died Sunday, Dec. 4, 2011, in a local hospital. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 7, 2011, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with the Rev. Richard Dickerson officiating. Interment will follow at Coahoma Cemetery.

The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2011, at the funeral home.

Isaac was born Jan. 19, 1937, in Ardmore, Okla., and married Christene Brooks on Oct. 1, 1955, in Ardmore.

He served in the United States Navy from 1953 to 1962. He worked as a gin manager, farmer and finally as foreman with J.W. Gray Dirt Contractors for 20 years. He loved to fish and play with his grandchildren.

He was a Baptist.

Survivors include his wife, Christene LaRue of Coahoma; two sons, Bobby LaRue and wife Laura of Coahoma and Charles LaRue of Snyder; one daughter, Ginger King and husband Billy of Coahoma; one brother, Carl LaRue; seven granddaughters, Jennifer Cox, Cristy Archer, Bailey LaRue, Tara Green, Vanessa Arista, Paige Hipp and Amy Lowe; four grandsons, Isaac King, Zack King, David LaRue and Rese LaRue; and several great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Harvey and Oma (Lee) LaRue.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences can be made at: www.npwelch.com

Paid obituary

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 7 a.m. Monday and 7 a.m. today:

Note: No arrests were reported for the corresponding times.

• BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 1000 block of E. 16th Street.

• THEFT was reported:
In the 1400 block of Lexington.
In the 1100 block of N. Lamesa.
In the 200 block of W. Third Street.

• ASSAULT was reported:
In the 3600 block of W. Highway 80.
In the 1400 block of S. Benton.

• CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 1900 block of Wasson Road.

• ROBBERY was reported in the 1800 block of S. Gregg Street.

Sheriff

The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the following activity:

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 61 inmates at the time of this report.

• TIMOTHY JOSEPH MAJOR JR., 37, was booked into the county jail Friday by the BSPD on charges of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension, accident involving damage to a vehicle and criminal mischief — more than \$1,500 and less than \$20,000.

• LESLIE ANN RODRIGUEZ, 24, was booked into the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on municipal warrants for driving while license invalid (two counts).

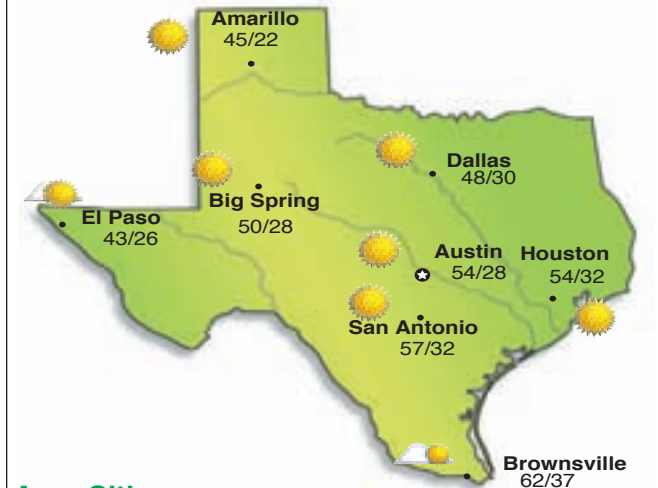
Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Wed 12/7	Thu 12/8	Fri 12/9	Sat 12/10	Sun 12/11
 50/28 A mainly sunny sky. High around 50F. Winds W at 10 to 15 mph.	 55/29 Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 50s and lows in the upper 20s.	 47/26 More sun than clouds. Highs in the upper 40s and lows in the mid 20s.	 52/33 Mainly sunny. Highs in the low 50s and lows in the low 30s.	 60/36 Partly cloudy. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the mid 30s.
Sunrise: 7:34 AM Sunset: 5:41 PM	Sunrise: 7:35 AM Sunset: 5:41 PM	Sunrise: 7:35 AM Sunset: 5:41 PM	Sunrise: 7:36 AM Sunset: 5:41 PM	Sunrise: 7:37 AM Sunset: 5:42 PM

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Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	49	29	sunny	Kingsville	61	32	pt sunny
Amarillo	45	22	sunny	Livingston	51	26	sunny
Austin	54	28	sunny	Longview	48	29	sunny
Beaumont	55	31	sunny	Lubbock	44	22	sunny
Brownsville	62	37	pt sunny	Lufkin	51	27	sunny
Brownwood	51	28	sunny	Midland	48	30	sunny
Corpus Christi	59	35	pt sunny	Raymondville	63	35	pt sunny
Corsicana	48	29	sunny	Rosenberg	54	30	sunny

• RICKY LEE TATE, 23, was booked into the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

• TRICIA DIANE CASTILLO, 36, was booked into the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on municipal warrants for failure to yield right of way, no driver's license (two counts) and violation of a promise to appear.

• SHAWNA GAIL ELLISON, 29, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on a charge of bail jumping — failure to appear and municipal warrants for displaying expired registration (two counts), failure to appear (four counts), failure to display driver's license, failure to maintain financial responsibility (two counts), failure to use proper safety seat system for child, violation of a promise to appear (two counts) and expired motor vehicle inspection.

• ASHLEY ELAINE ELLISON, 24, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on charges of resisting arrest, search or transportation, driving while license suspended, displaying expired inspection, disregarding a stop sign and failure to signal turn.

• PAUL EVERETTE JORDAN, 51, was booked into the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

• MAURO PERALTA AGUINAGA, 51, was arrested Saturday by DPS on a charge of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.

• ROLAND KEITH THACKER, 44, was booked into the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated — third or more offense.

• MALCOME HEATH JONES, 31, was booked into the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

• FRANK EARL TOUCHY, 38, was booked into the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

• MANUEL SOSA IV, 18, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on a capias pro fine for minor in consumption of alcohol.

• STEVEN GAMBOA, 27, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on a charge of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.

• DOMINICK ROBERT PENA, 24, was booked into the county jail Sunday by the Martin County Sheriff's Office on a Martin County warrant for injury to a child — serious bodily injury/mental.

• JESSE RAMOS, 39, was booked into the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

• ADAM CHARLES FLOWERS, 17, was booked into the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of consumption of alcohol by a minor.

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Take Note

LUMINARIA

Continued from Page 1A

• Coahoma Christmas Concert, featuring the Coahoma Choir Kids and members of the third grade class, will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday in the school cafeteria. Everyone is invited; the event is free.

• A benefit account for the Arguello family, who lost two family members in a recent house fire in Coahoma, has been established at Western Bank. Interested persons can contribute to the account at any of the bank's three locations (two in Big Spring; one in Coahoma). For more information, call 432-394-4256.

• An account has been established at Wells Fargo to help defray medical expenses for 4-year-old Zayde Stallings, who recently died of a rare heart condition. She was the daughter of Kenny and Renea Stallings of Big Spring. If you need more information, contact Four Seasons Insulation and Siding at 264-8610. The account number is 7938527277.

• A fund has been set up at Myers & Smith Funeral Home for Mike Williams, 39, a lifetime resident of Big Spring who died Nov. 1. He leaves behind a wife and seven children. Any donations can be brought to the funeral home office at 301 E. 24th St. For more information, call 267-8288.

• American Cancer Society will have its board meetings at noon on the second Tuesday of the month through April. Lunch will be furnished. Meetings will take place at Home Hospice, located at 111 E. Seventh.

• Home Hospice is seeking volunteers. Training will be provided and geared to your time frame. Volunteers are needed for in office duties as well as sitters, deliveries and crafts. To find out more information or to volunteer contact Sherry Hodnett at Home Hospice by calling 264-7599.

• Every 10 years, Texas requires that marks and brands be re-registered in the county or counties in which you operate. The re-registration period began Aug. 31 and runs through Feb. 29, 2012. At the conclusion date, all marks and brands that have not been re-registered are automatically available for registration by another party. For additional information, contact the Howard County Clerk's Office at 264-2214 or 264-2213.

• Hangar 25 Air Museum needs your help! We are in need of volunteers to fill a variety of positions such as tour guides, front desk, clerical, events, and many others. Set your hours and days of the week you are available. Meet new people and enjoy a rewarding experience. For more information, contact Emma Bogard at 432-267-2963.

• Big Spring Education Employees Fed-

eral Credit Union is raising money to benefit Maurine Pittman, who is undergoing cancer treatment in a Dallas-area hospital. For more information, call the credit union at 263-8393.

• A benefit fund has been established at Western Bank for Eric Kelly, a 24-year-old Big Spring resident with cystic fibrosis who is recovering from a double lung transplant in Dallas. All donations are appreciated. For more information, call 432-213-0795

• The Salvation Army is holding its annual heater drive and is in dire need of heaters. Community members can donate new or used heaters. Monetary donations are also welcomed. Donations can be made at the main office, located at 811 W. Fifth St., Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

• The Homeownership Preservation Foundation (HPF) is an independent national nonprofit dedicated to helping distressed homeowners navigate financial challenges and avoid mortgage foreclosure. If you want to stop foreclosure and are in need of foreclosure help, the time to call 888-995-HOPE is now. The Homeowner's HOPE hotline is a counseling service provided by HPF to work with you to find a solution to your problem. HPF can provide counseling free of charge, in English and 170 other languages, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Free foreclosure help, call the hotline.

• Fridays are live band dance nights at Big Spring Senior Center, 1901 Simler. Senior adults are invited to an evening of fellowship (and good exercise) from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. each Friday. Cost is \$8 per person. For more information or to find out what band is playing, call the Senior Center at 432-267-1628.

• A benefit fund for Chris Johnson (account 5945033396) has been established at Wells Fargo Bank to help defray expenses from a house fire. All donations are appreciated.

• The Salvation Army has funding for Texas Military Personnel now serving or has served in Iraq or Afghanistan. The military member or their family member may apply at 811 W. Fifth St. or call 267-8239. The grant is funded by the TRIAD Fund of Permian Basin Area Foundation.

• Weight Watchers meets at 6 p.m. Thursdays at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m. Weigh-in is confidential and you don't have to talk if you don't want to. Flexible payment options.

• The mission of CASA of West Texas is to promote and support quality volunteers who speak for the best interest of abused

and neglected children in court in an effort to find each child a safe, nurturing and permanent home. We currently have 55 children in foster care without a volunteer. We need your help. If you're interested in volunteering please contact Suzy Milliken at 1-877-316-8346 or visit www.BecomeCASA.org or www.casawtx.org.

• Legal Aid of Northwest Texas is accepting appointments from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. the first and third Wednesday of each month. Individuals seeking legal advice for matters concerning family law, divorce, custody and child support issues, social security cases, employment and housing may contact the office to schedule an appointment. Criminal cases are not accepted. Anyone recently served with legal documents should call the office immediately at 800-926-5630 or 432-686-0647.

• Big Spring and surrounding counties are in critical need of foster families. Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the community who have been abused or neglected. For more information on becoming foster parents or adoptive families, call the Children's Protective Services office at 263-9669.

• HATS (Hope After The Sadness), an American Cancer Society Resource Room is available at First Methodist Church. This center provides information and valuable resources for those affected by cancer. This HATS ministry, established in memory of the late Rev. Dr. Shane Brue, maintains a room with free hats, wigs and head coverings available for check-out by those dealing with hair loss due to cancer treatment. Other services and resources are also available. Contact the "Hat Lady," Marci Lykken at 267-2915 or the local ACS office at 432-683-6375.

• Road to Recovery, sponsored by the American Cancer Society, seeks volunteers to drive cancer patients to treatment in Midland. This requires just a few hours commitment each month. To volunteer, or to request a ride for treatment, call (877) 277-1618, the High Plains American Cancer Group Report Center. Anyone wishing to volunteer to drive in this program should call Sherry Hodnett, president of the Big Spring ACS Board, at 264-7599 at her office at Home Hospice.

• All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue has an account set up with Big Spring Salvage at 3608 N. Hwy. 87 for all types of metals and aluminum cans. All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue is also still taking weight circles off of all Purina brand dog foods. Send your Purina Weight Circles, to A.C.S.&R. at P.O. Box 871, Coahoma 79511. All Creatures Sanctuary is accepting old and used cell phones and ink jet cartridges, for drop off locations in Big Spring and Coahoma, call Melanie at 267-7387.

FIRE

Continued from Page 1A

they can be deadly.

"During this time of year, people need to

exercise caution with these appliances," he added. "If they don't maintain a clear space around the heater and allow air to circulate, there can be a fire."

This marks the second fatal house fire in Howard County within the past month. Petra Arguello, 60, and her 9-year-old

grandson Jacob were killed when their Coahoma residence was consumed in a Nov. 13 blaze.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at reporter@big-springherald.com

WINTER

Continued from Page 1A

get where you're going. That's one of the most common mistakes people make when they drive in bad conditions."

Some other tips Everett pointed out drivers can follow to stay safe in icy conditions include:

— Decrease your speed and leave yourself plenty of room to stop. You should allow at least three times more space than usual between you and the car in front of you.

— Brake gently to avoid skidding. If your wheels start to lock up, ease off the brake.

— Turn on your lights to increase your visibility to other motorists.

— Keep your lights and windshield clean.

— Use low gears to keep traction, especially on hills.

— Don't use cruise control or overdrive on icy roads.

— Be especially careful on bridges, overpasses and infrequently traveled roads, which will freeze first. Even at temperatures above freezing, if the condi-

tions are wet, you could encounter ice in shady areas or on exposed roadways like bridges.

— Don't assume your vehicle can handle all conditions. Even four-wheel and front-wheel drive vehicles can encounter trouble on winter roads.

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MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL
 24th & Johnson 267-8288
 Teri Nall, 54, died Friday. Funeral services will be at 4:30 p.m. today at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Cuthbert Cemetery in Mitchell County.
 Ana M. Ramirez, 72, died Saturday. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. today at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.
 Modesto C. Requejo, 64, died Saturday. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 2:30 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

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EDITORIAL

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-FIRST AMENDMENT

Opinions expressed on this page are those of the Editorial Board of the Big Spring Herald unless otherwise indicated.

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Paper seems to be more forever

How many of you want your holiday greetings to arrive in the form of thick paper cards delivered by the United States Postal Service? Now, how many prefer your cheery wishes to arrive in your e-mail inbox, always available via a click or two, assuming you remember where they're stored? Let's have a vote on that loaded question.

Some communications are still best made on paper. Mainstream etiquette requires that sympathy letters after a death be handwritten. Wedding invites still come on compressed-cellulose, usually of high quality. You can tape paper invitations to the refrigerator. No batteries required.

In this season of tradition, while shoppers stampede for electronics — some bought online from an e-merchant — paper still rules the soul. Some things are too personal to be delivered via a click on the *â*sendâ button.

That's why e-readers have barely dented the market for children's books. It seems that most parents don't want to read a bedtime story off a screen. They want their children to hold a book in their hands and play with the pages. Thus, digital versions account for only 5 percent of children's book sales, publishers told The New York Times.

The Orwellian American Left

As I heard Barack Obama and his propaganda minister, Jay Carney, endorsing tax cuts as a vehicle for economic growth, I was reminded, again, of George Orwell's "1984" and the striking similarities between his Oceania and the American left's vision for America.

Oceania's Big Brother regime had "four Ministries between which the entire apparatus of government was divided," the Ministry of Truth, the Ministry of Peace, the Ministry of Love and the Ministry of Plenty. Each department was dedicated to the opposite principle suggested by its title. "Truth" disseminated lies. "Peace" promoted war. "Love" enforced uniformity of thought. And "Plenty" manipulated the economy to impoverish the people while enriching the ruling class. God was expelled and absolute truth abolished, while "doublespeak" was promoted.

Oceania's Thought Police was the Ministry of Love's enforcement arm, while the Ministry of Truth undertook the task of rewriting history in service to the Party slogan, "Who controls the past controls the future. Who controls the present controls the past."

Today the left has a Ministry of Truth, because it knows that twice as many Americans identify themselves as conservatives than as liberals and so has to disguise its policies to deceive the majority. Its Ministry of Peace would be better named the Ministry of Bipartisanship, which, in the name of reaching across the aisle with a friendly hand, slices it off with a partisan dagger. Its Ministry of Love is more aptly named the Ministry of Tolerance, which dictates one way of thinking and demonizes dissenters. The Ministry of Plenty is alive and well in the Obama administration's cadre of economic advisers.

The liberal establishment's Ministry of Truth extends

(E-book sales in some adult categories account for five times that share.)

Paper books make fine affordable presents. Never say never, but I can't see sending an e-mail that reads, "For your birthday, I'm giving you Gibbon's "The History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire." Please click on the link." How does one inscribe that? An e-book feels like a transfer of cash.

The drop-off in sales of paper books and the success of online bookseller Amazon have contributed to another bit of depersonalization. Many bricks-and-mortar bookstores have vanished from the landscape, depriving us of our precious places. This is urbanologist talk for a hangout that is not home or work.

Anyone who depended on a Borders (now bankrupt) for escape from work or Sunday-night tedium knows of what I speak.

Fortunately, we see some fight-back. Nashville novelist Ann Patchett so lamented the loss of a local independent bookstore and of a Borders that she bankrolled her own shop in the "Athens of the South" — Parnassus Books.

In Manhattan's plugged-in Nolita neighborhood, Canadian Sarah McNally has created a literature-heavy bookstore that's become an institution. McNally Jackson Books doesn't even offer Internet access. Now how cool is that?

It's been predicted that the paper books of the future will be better made and more treasured than today's typical pulp product. Ordinary books will be

downloaded digitally. (I fully appreciate the instant gratification of downloading a quick read on my Kindle.)

One thing that makes e-books more competitive with paper books is that paper books have gotten so shabby. If you have an early edition of Julia Child's "Mastering the Art of French Cooking," compare its rich pages with the cheesy paper of the 2009 reprint.

This opens an interesting discussion on a new phenomenon, the Espresso machines that can automatically print and bind books. A few traditional bookstores, such as McNally's, have them, giving customers fast access to paper books not on the shelves. Sounds interesting, but will these feel like the real thing?

Paper is not forever, but it is a lot more forever than the digital images that vanish the moment the electricity goes off or the battery drains. The digital age has set off an explosion of information, much of which we print out. But some printed communications deserve a higher quality of bond, which is why, when it comes to holiday greetings, we look toward the mailbox, not the inbox.

To find out more about Froma Harrop, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

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FROMA HARROP



DAVID LIMBAUGH

throughout our culture, having taken over our educational institutions, the arts and the sciences. How slavishly our academics hew to the Party slogan. They have planted themselves in positions of cultural influence to "control the present," in order to rewrite the past (to conform to their dogma), for purposes of "controlling the future."

Our professors of history, economics, political science, sociology, psychology, philosophy, journalism, law, the hard sciences and other fields deride Western civilization and characterize our founders as Christian-mocking deists devoted to enlightenment principles of the philosophes. They speciously tie our unique freedoms to our "secular" founding to argue that we must banish God from the public square, lest we lose our liberties. In the name of academic inquiry, these academic and cultural "Thought Police" indoctrinate and intimidate students who dare deviate from their thought mandates.

Their textbooks tell us that Franklin D.

Roosevelt not only was not a domestic liberal but also saved capitalism through socialism. (Talk about "doublespeak.") They say his New Deal spent us out of the Great Depression, while current historians not housed in the Ministry of Truth tell us it exacerbated our economic woes. Based on the ministry's revisionism, Keynesian economists were empowered to reflect those myths in their textbooks for a half-century. Armed with their revised lessons from history, Obama's Ministry of Plenty advocated passage of the "stimulus" bill, which was doublespeak for "rampant redistribution to its allies, sucking the oxygen out of the private sector and suppressing the economy."

The left's Ministry of Truth, with the full-throated support of the "unbiased" mainstream media, has given us such Orwellian originals as "pro-choice" while suing an 80-year-old prayer-warrior for standing outside Planned Parenthood's abortion factory to share important information with pregnant mothers to help them make a fully

informed choice. The ministry seeks to shut down conservative talk radio, with the "Fairness Doctrine." It forbids private ballots for employees to vote anonymously on union membership for the purpose of intimidating them to join — in the name of the "Employee Free Choice Act." It boasts of "budget cuts" when it slightly reduces the rate of increases in spending. It calls the budget-busting Obamacare legislation the "Affordable Care Act." It calls a bill that would further expand unemployment a "jobs bill." It fabricates and manipulates a consensus on "climate change" and ostracizes dissenters as science-averse. (In Oceania, science had "almost ceased to exist.") It conspires with its Ministry of Tolerance to describe political dissent from its effort to legalize homosexual marriage as "hate" and to brand political conservatism as "racism." While the rapacious Obama administration recklessly squanders our national wealth in its lust for power, its ministries of Plenty and Bipartisanship vilify the wealthy — who are paying a disproportionate share of taxes — for not paying their fair share. The Ministry of Plenty, while presiding over the destruction of the private sector, castigates job creators for hoarding all the wealth.

2012 won't be so much about two competing visions as it will be a contest of truth. Without the left's Orwellian ministers and their deputies in the press and academia, it would be a historic blowout and rejection of their vision. I'm betting it will be anyway.

David Limbaugh is a writer, author and attorney. His latest book, "Crimes Against Liberty," was No. 1 on the New York Times best-seller list for nonfiction for its first two weeks. Follow him on Twitter @davidlimbaugh and his website at www.davidlimbaugh.com. To read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

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- By e-mail Managing Editor Bill McClellan at editor@bigspringherald.com or News Editor Steve Reagan at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

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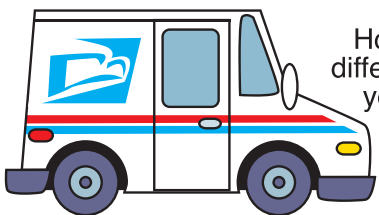
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Kid Scoop Together: TRUE OR FALSE?

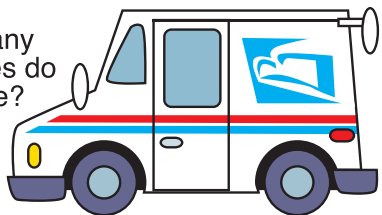
Some of the statements below are true, some are false. See if you can guess which is which. Then, check your answers by doing each math problem. The even-numbered answers are TRUE, the odd-numbered answers are FALSE.

MAIL

Homing pigeons, dogsleds, balloons and mules have all been used to carry messages. The need to communicate brought about advances in transportation and communication systems. The delivery system for mail has moved from animal carriers to railways and air, from mail trucks to today's nearly instant exchanges via email, text messages and mobile phones.



How many differences do you see?



May's Adventure

In 1914, a four-year-old girl called May Pierstoff was mailed from her hometown of Grangeville, Idaho to her grandparents in Lewiston. At 48 1/2 pounds—just shy of the 50-pound parcel post

limit—she was "mailed" for 53 cents in stamps attached to her coat. She traveled in the train's mail compartment and was delivered right to her grandparents' house by the mail clerk on duty.

DO THE MATH: How much would the postage have been if May were sent by the Pony Express?



The Pony Express

In 1860, Pony Express horseback _____ carried messages in relays across a 2,000-mile trail from Missouri to California. Postage cost \$5 per half ounce. Riders changed horses at 160 _____, at roughly 10 to 15 mile intervals along the rugged and often dangerous mountain and prairie _____. This was thought to be the longest distance a horse could gallop without tiring.



At each station, the rider changed to a fresh horse taking only his special mail _____ called a *mochila*. He blew a horn when approaching a station in order to alert the stationmaster to prepare a _____ horse. Each rider rode about 75 miles per day. But by late 1861, when telegraph lines _____ the east and west coasts, the Pony Express ended.

**STATIONS
SADDLEBAG
ROUTE
CONNECTED
RIDERS
FRESH**

Dang it! My horse galloped off without me, knocking some of the words out of this story. Can you replace them?

Letter Writing Basics

Follow the steps below to address an envelope and write a letter the correct way.

1. Your name and address goes here on the envelope
2. Postage stamp in this corner
3. Full name and address

Emily Davison
123 Main Street
Anytown, ID 55555



Mrs. Betty Davison
456 Eastern Ave., Apt. 2C
Boston, MA 55555

Extra! Extra!

Riders Rule

Find six words in the newspaper that you might use to describe a Pony Express rider.

Standards Links: Grammar: Recognize adjectives in written compositions.

Ancient Egyptians were the first to carry written documents from one place to another.

TRUE FALSE

16 + 4 + 8 =

Ben Franklin was appointed the first Postmaster General in the U.S. in 1775.

TRUE FALSE

12 + 5 + 7 =

In Belgium, cats were once used to deliver mail to distant villages.

TRUE FALSE

19 + 5 + 4 =

The British were the first to introduce the use of a stamp as payment for mail.

TRUE FALSE

11 + 6 + 3 =

In the late 1800s, Alaskan gold miners trained penguins to deliver mail to distant relatives.

TRUE FALSE

11 + 3 + 9 =

The first e-mail message was sent in 1971 by computer engineer Ray Tomlinson.

TRUE FALSE

13 + 13 + 4 =

Clint Eastwood was one of the most famous Pony Express riders.

TRUE FALSE

9 + 7 + 3 =

Standards Links: History: Know ways people communicate now and long ago.

Kid Scoop-doku™

Complete the grid by using all the letters in the word MAILED in each vertical and horizontal row. Each letter should only be used once in each row. Some spaces have been filled in for you.

M				
A		M		
I	M			
L	M			
E				M
D			M	

1. Your full name
2. You own address
3. Today's date
4. Greeting

Emily Davison
123 Main Street
Anytown, ID 55555
December 3, 2011

Dear Grandma and Grandpa,
I wanted to write a letter thanking you for the nice birthday present you guys sent to me.

The jacket is a great fit! It has been so cold this week that I'm really happy to have it. It started to rain after school yesterday and the jacket kept me warm and dry all the way home.

My birthday party was a lot of fun and I wish you guys lived closer but I was thinking about you!

Love,
Emily

P.S. I'm really looking forward to your visit in February!

9. Forgot something? Add a P.S.

Standards Links: Writing Applications: Write friendly letters using correct format.

What does P.S. mean?

P.S. stands for *post scriptum*. Unscramble the letters below to find out what this Latin phrase means.

**R A T E F
G R I N W I T**

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Which stamp should come next in each row to continue the pattern? Circle it.



Standards Links: Investigation: Follow and complete patterns.



Santa has a website which you can use to write to him and receive a reply. Go to: www.kidscoop.com/kids

Double Double Word Search

SADDLEBAG
MESSAGES
DELIVERY
RAILWAYS
MOCHILA
GALLOP
RIDERS
RELAYS
CLERK
OUNCE
EMAIL
HORN
TEXT
SIGN

Find the words in the puzzle, then in this week's Kid Scoop stories and activities.

Y	R	I	D	E	R	S	C	O	E
R	N	S	E	G	A	S	S	E	M
E	R	T	N	C	I	A	E	C	A
V	E	E	P	O	L	L	A	G	I
I	C	X	L	I	W	E	T	I	L
L	N	T	H	A	A	N	R	O	H
E	U	C	O	N	Y	S	M	K	A
D	O	I	L	S	S	S	I	G	N
M	G	A	B	E	L	D	D	A	S

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

www.kidscoop.com

Dear Sir/Madam

Find the Letters to the Editor section in the newspaper. Select one letter and write a response to its author, imagining that you are the newspaper editor.

Standards Links: Writing Applications: Use general skills and strategies of the writing process.

What two words have thousands of letters in them?

ANSWER: Post office!

Write On!

Post Office Opinion

Do you think we still need post offices in this day of email and sending text messages? Why or why not?

Tragic tale of a great horned owl

Standing at the back of a pickup, Art and I were buffeted by strong gusts of wind from the northwest. Relentlessly, the dust-filled bursts tore at our hats pulled low to keep them from blowing away. Our fleece-lined jackets ballooned under the constant pressure.

Looking down toward the bed of the truck, I wondered how the great horned owl had managed to stay alive. Not only had it hung on a barbed wire fence for three to four days, it had been transported first to a veterinarian in Eagle Pass, then on to Midland. The following day it had been brought to us at the truck stop in Big Spring.

When its carrier had first contacted us earlier in the week, he had explained that he had been called to a tank battery 15 miles east of the border city. "On our side of the river?" I asked. "Yes." My next question was why the crew hadn't done anything.

"They were waiting on me. Too scared to approach a bird that big," was his apologetic reply. Following was a silence that was frightening. After a deep sigh, the man continued.

Believing the great horn had flown into the fence during the night, he noticed immediately the barbed portion of the wire was embedded inside the flesh on the inner leading edge of one wing. With its other wing for balance, the owl had been able to stand in an upright position on the strand of wire underneath. "Poor thing looked like it was crucified," he added.

Since he thought that the



Courtesy photo

A great horned owl has a four foot wingspan that enables it to hunt for rabbits, rats, skunks, and raccoons during the night. Its phenomenal eyesight and hearing, coupled with its silent flight, allow it to drop quickly upon unsuspecting prey.

only way to remove the owl from the wire was to slice the flesh and lift the bird away from the barb, he used his pocketknife to make the shortest cut possible. Once free, the great horned owl was rushed to a pet clinic.

As our first conversation continued, I recommended that he take the owl to the closest rehabilitator. After listening to my suggestions, he said he was taking it to Midland because that's where he lived.

My next request was that the owl be transported inside the cab. Already in a weakened state, the noise, turbulence and stress of riding in the back of a pickup more than 500 miles would be life threatening. To this recommendation he answered he would call me when in Midland.

The next day he phoned. Telling me the bird had withstood the trip, he added that it had hunkered down and the wind had not seemed to damage the feathers. "Then it rode in the back of the

truck?" I asked. "Yes. See you tomorrow."

Glancing back at the owl while Art talked with the man, I noticed that it had the coloration of great horns often found in the southwestern parts of Texas. Pale in comparison to those found further east and north, the raptor, with eyes closed, seemed oblivious to its surroundings.

Seemingly more grayish, the bird of prey had the typical barred chest and belly, ear tufts, facial discs rimmed with black, white throat and large black bill. The mottled appearance of its wings resembled old tree bark.

As I carefully started to remove it from the man's cage, the owl was too spent to pop its beak in warning. Briefly, it opened its large, yellow eyes. Once inside our carrier, it readily slept.

Once home, we examined the damaged wing. Using the anti-inflammatory and antibiotic medications recommended by South Plains in Lubbock, we felt the raptor needed rest and sustenance before being transported again.

Whether its wing had any permanent damage from the barb or the man's surgery would be learned later. Having told him if the owl survived, but was not releasable, it might be considered for educational purposes, we made no promises as to the outcome.

We did mention an open house later in December at

the wildlife center. If the great horn was capable of recovery, he and his wife might enjoy seeing it again.

Two days later, the raptor was delivered to the Lubbock facility. In numerous conversations, the manager and I discussed its progress. Although it ate readily, Debbie Tennyson continued to be concerned about the wing damage that had been inflicted, both by the wire and its removal.

Telling her I had extended an invitation to the man and his wife to drive up for the open house, I said I hoped, if the owl lived, that the couple could see it. Debbie boldly retorted she would not keep a bird alive just to get a donation.

Never having attended their Christmas open house, I was not aware that it was an important fund-raiser. Since my gesture had been misconstrued, I quickly replied, "Neither would I!"

The next day, Debbie called to say the open house was well attended, but had not attracted the couple from Midland. When the phone rang two days later, it was Debbie. In spite of medications and care, the owl's wing was becoming increasingly worrisome.

Prepared for what we thought might happen, we were not surprised when the following morning Debbie called to say the wing was "dry, crisp and nasty." Their veterinarians agreed everything that could be done had been tried. Euthanasia ended its decline.

Unknown to us, and prior to our calling the man about the death of the owl, the wildlife center's director had de-

BIRD POOP

BY BEBE McCASLAND



ecided to have a second open house the following weekend to accommodate many of the college students and relatives home for Christmas. During the flow of human traffic throughout the facility, the couple from Midland suddenly appeared. Unable to attend the first event, and having learned of the second via a website, they had made a special trip.

Upon learning of the great horn's demise, they became almost hysterical. Crying, they refused to be consoled. Explanations from those who had worked the closest with the bird were not accepted.

Since that time some six years ago, my thoughts drift back each December to the efforts expended to save the owl's life by both the man and the wildlife center. The "what ifs" might be the crew had tried a rescue; the man had cut the wire and left surgery to the vet; the great horn had been carried inside the truck; and, wildlife centers perform miracles. All were, and are, merely suppositions. They continue to remind me of the twists, turns and misfortune often found in Charles Dickens' story of great expectations.

Bebe McCasland is author of "The Scoop From Bird Poop." She is federally and state licensed to rehabilitate wild birds.

Droughts are not uncommon

We all realize that we are in the grasp of a drought in Texas such as we have not witnessed in a while, but I would like to remind each of us that drought is common in our state. I did a bit of research and discovered in 1917 we were placed in similar circumstances with one of the driest times on record.

Then, during the

1930s, the Dust Bowl drought severely affected much of the United States. That drought came in three waves, 1934, 1936 and 1939-40, but some regions of the High Plains experienced drought conditions for as many as eight years. The "dust bowl" effect was caused by sustained drought conditions compounded by years of land man-

agement practices that left topsoil susceptible to the forces of the wind.

The soil, depleted of moisture, was lifted by the wind into great clouds of dust and sand which were so thick they concealed the sun for several days at a time; those were referred to as "black blizzards." In the aftermath of the Dust Bowl, it was clear many factors contributed to the severe impact of this drought. A better understanding of the interactions between the natural elements (climate, plants and soil) and human-related

elements (agricultural practices, economics and social conditions) of the Great Plains was needed. Lessons were learned, and farmers adopted new cultivation methods to help control soil erosion in dry land ecosystems. Subsequent droughts in this region have had less impact due to these cultivation practices.

However, droughts continue. Thusly, the drought of the 1950s, at which time the southwestern U.S. withstood a five-year drought and in three of these years, drought conditions stretched coast to coast. The Texas Panhandle,

along with other areas, experienced severe drought conditions.

The drought maintained a stronghold in the Great Plains, reaching a peak in 1956 and subsided in most areas with the spring rains of 1957.

The 1950s drought was characterized by both low rainfall amounts and excessively high temperatures as we have experienced this past year. A drought of this magnitude creates severe social and economic repercussions. The drought devastated the region's agriculture. Excessive temperatures and low rainfall scorched grasslands typically used for grazing. With grass scarce, hay prices became very costly. By the time the drought subsided in 1957, 244 of the 254 counties in Texas were declared federal drought disaster areas.

Next came the drought of the 80s which was a three-year drought (1987-1989) covering 36 percent of the United States at its peak. Compared to the Dust Bowl drought, which covered 70 percent during its worst year, this does not seem significant; however, the 1980s drought was an extremely expensive natural disaster. Combining the losses in energy, water, ecosystems and agriculture, the total cost of the three-year drought was estimated at \$39 billion. By 1988, the drought

PARENT'S CORNER

BY DARRELL RYAN



intensified over the northern Great Plains and spread across much of the eastern half of the United States. The summer of 1988 is well known for the extensive forest fires that burned across western North America, including the catastrophic Yellowstone fire. The 1987-89 drought was the first widespread persistent drought since the 1950s and took people by surprise. Many had not experienced the earlier droughts and others had forgotten about the harsh realities of drought conditions, very much like our current situation.

So we know that drought is nothing new but we still have reason to worry. No one is able to scientifically predict multi-year droughts, but the climatic record can tell us how frequently droughts have occurred in the past, how they can happen again, and are happening at this time. We must learn, as our ancestors, how to survive through conservation.

Darrell Ryan is director of federal funds for the Big Spring Independent School District.

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Never Say Die

Contract Bridge is a game of skill and strategy. It is played with a standard 52-card deck. The game is played in four suits: Spades, Hearts, Diamonds, and Clubs. The Spades suit is the highest ranking suit, followed by Hearts, Diamonds, and Clubs. The game is played in a partnership format. Each player is dealt 13 cards. The dealer is determined by a random method. The game is played in a series of deals. Each deal consists of a bidding phase and a play phase. The bidding phase is where the players bid to determine which suit will be the trump suit. The play phase is where the cards are played and the trick-taking process begins. The game is a complex and challenging game that requires a deep understanding of the rules and strategy. It is a game that has been played for centuries and continues to be popular today.

Tomorrow: The Game of Contract Bridge

sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means no number is repeated in any row, column or box.

7				8				5
	5			7			2	
6			9	5				4
2		1				5		9
		6	3		7	8		
3		4				2		7
8				2		1		6
	1			5			8	
9				4				3

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

*Thank you for all who came
out for the 26th Annual
Big Spring Herald
Community Parade*



Community Christmas Parade



HERALD photos/Steve Reagan and Thomas Jenkins
Big Spring residents took to the streets to enjoy the 26th Annual Big Spring Herald Community Christmas Parade on Saturday afternoon. More than 30 entries took part in this year's parade, including several local businesses and organizations.

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BRIEF HISTORY OF C.E. MIKE THOMAS

- Over 25 years overall experience
- Certified Public Accountant
- Served as Howard County Attorney, Big Spring City Attorney
- Member of Howard County Bar Assoc., State Bar Assoc., American Bar Assoc.



C.E. Mike Thomas
Attorney at Law

c.e.mikethomas@gmail.com


432-263-4142
501 Gregg St.
Big Spring, Tx.

sudoku

ANSWERS

7	4	3	1	8	2	6	9	5
1	5	9	4	7	6	3	2	8
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4	1	7	6	5	3	9	8	2
9	6	2	7	4	8	1	5	3

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Letters to Santa

Deadline For Letters Is Friday, December 9th

Letters will be published in the Letters To Santa Section on Friday, December 23, 2011

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Cerbi Ritchey

Chargers light up Jaguars Monday

JACKSONVILLE (AP) — Of all the negative numbers of the last six weeks, the only one that mattered to Philip Rivers was the losses.

Sure, the interceptions and fumbles were bothersome. But they didn't compare to the six-game losing streak, the franchise's longest in more than eight years.

So Rivers made little of his big night against Jacksonville.

Rivers threw for 294 yards and three touchdowns, burning Jacksonville's depleted secondary early and often, and the Chargers beat the Jaguars 38-14 Monday night to snap

a six-game losing streak.

"There was no magical play or magical scheme," Rivers said. "We just played better. This doesn't mean we'll play better next week. Each game stands alone. We played good for three and a half hours, won and now let's go play somebody else next week."

The Chargers (5-7) had been waiting for the three-time Pro Bowl selection to return to form. Some questioned whether it would

See **CHARGERS**, Page 2B

Baylor's Griffin is the favorite for Heisman

NEW YORK (AP) — Stanford's Andrew Luck is returning to New York as a Heisman Trophy finalist, just not as the favorite.

That distinction belongs to Baylor's Robert Griffin III.

The two star quarterbacks will join fellow finalists Trent Richardson, Tyrann Mathieu and Montee Ball at the Heisman presentation Saturday night in Manhattan.

Luck is the only repeat finalist this season, while Griffin is the first Baylor player to get an invite to the ceremony. The school that never has had a player finish better than fourth in the Heisman voting now seems to have the front-runner.

"I'm sure it will be a really close vote," Griffin told reporters in Waco, Texas, after watching the an-

nouncement with teammates and coaches on Monday.

Richardson is the second Alabama running back to be a finalist in the past three years. Former teammate Mark Ingram won the Heisman in 2009.

Ball has scored 38 touchdowns for Wisconsin and needs one more to match Barry Sanders' NCAA record.

Mathieu, the LSU defensive back nicknamed "Honey Badger," has made numerous game-changing plays for the top-ranked Tigers.

The field was deep this season and several deserving players didn't make the cut. Boise State quarterback Kellen Moore, a finalist last

See **GRIFFIN**, Page 2B

NHL set for complete realignment

PEBBLE BEACH (AP) — Forced into realignment following Atlanta's move to Winnipeg last summer, the NHL opted for a dramatic change rather than a simple one.

League officials approved a radical realignment plan Monday that will give the league four conferences instead of six divisions and guarantee home-and-home series among all teams.

The Board of Governors authorized commissioner Gary Bettman to implement the proposal pending input from the NHL Players' Association. It could be put in place as early as next season.

The new plan tried to

address as many concerns of the teams as possible, from creating more equitable travel, to preserving rivalries, to promoting the game by having the biggest stars play in every city every season.

"This is not a subject that everybody is going to get their first choice on," Bettman said. "What you try to do is come up with something that everybody can live with, get comfortable with and understands the value of. Because if you ask 30 clubs, you'd probably get 30 different solutions. That's what makes this a difficult process."

The league considered two plans to accommo-

date Atlanta's move to Winnipeg this past summer. The first would have moved the Jets to the Western Conference's Central Division and either Detroit or Columbus to the Southeast in the Eastern Conference.

But there were issues with that plan that kept compounding with each potential solution as other franchises wanted to use realignment to solve their concerns, as well.

"The simple one wasn't as simple as it looked when you got done with it," Bettman said.

The board opted to go with the more dramatic switch, creating four geographic conferences

— two with eight teams and two with seven.

"I think at the end of the day, everybody voted in terms of doing what the right thing was for the majority of teams and our fans and our competitiveness and what was fair," said Nashville general manager David Poile, whose team was a big advocate of changing to the new model. "I think everybody probably feels good about that today. I know I do."

The new format will increase overall travel in the regular season, especially for Eastern Conference teams who will now have more

See **NHL**, Page 2B

Briefs

Bowl-A-Rama Christmas tournament

Bowl-A-Rama of Big Spring will host their second annual Christmas tournament Thursday, Dec. 15 at 7 p.m.

Bowlers must be checked in by 6 p.m. Entry fee is \$25 if paid by Dec. 13 and \$30 afterward. The tournament is open to all bowlers and the handicap is 100 percent of 230.

Eight places will be paid, including a \$150 first place prize and \$100 for second. For more information, visit the website at: www.bowlarama.com.

Hawk Buddies B-ball program

Howard College's Earl Diddle and Jamie Fisher will be hosting a basketball clinic Dec. 10 for girls in grades K-8. The fee is \$20 and space is limited to the first 100 kids. For more information, call Coach Diddle at 264-5043 or Coach Fisher at 264-5155.

Old sexual assault claim rocks Red Sox and MLB

BOSTON (AP) — A man who worked as a teenager in the Red Sox clubhouse with big-name players such as Roger Clemens and Wade Boggs said his "dream job" ended abruptly when the clubhouse manager sexually assaulted him.

Charles Crawford and another Massachusetts man are now accusing Donald Fitzpatrick, who died in 2005, of abusing them in the early 1990s. The statute of limitations has expired for filing lawsuits, but the men are seeking \$5 million settlements from the team.

During a news con-

ference Monday, Crawford said Fitzpatrick assaulted him twice inside the clubhouse at Fenway Park — once in an equipment room and once in a restroom. He was 16 at the time.

"People need to know what happened," said Crawford, who agreed to have his name used. "It's still mind-boggling to me."

Fitzpatrick had been accused of sexually abusing children earlier. In 2002, he pleaded guilty in Florida to attempted sexual battery on a child under 12. The team also settled a lawsuit with seven Florida men who said Fitzpat-

rick molested them during spring training beginning in the 1970s.

Crawford said he decided to come forward now after U.S. Sen. Scott Brown's revelation earlier this year that he was molested by a counselor at a summer camp when he was 10 and the more recent sexual abuse allegations made against former Penn State assistant football coach Jerry Sandusky.

Crawford's lawyer, Mitchell Garabedian, said the newest allegations are believed to be the first time that Fitzpatrick has been accused of molesting boys at Fenway. The new al-

legations were first reported by The Boston Globe.

Garabedian said he sent the Red Sox a letter last month informing them of the new allegations and asking for the settlements.

Red Sox attorney Daniel Goldberg did not immediately return two calls seeking comment Monday, but in a statement he said the Red Sox "have always viewed the actions of Mr. Fitzpatrick to be abhorrent."

"When the team, then under a previous ownership group, became aware of the allegations against Mr. Fitzpatrick

in 1991, he was promptly relieved of his duties," Goldberg said. He said the club does not have any specifics on the two recent allegations.

Crawford said he was thrilled when he got a job as a clubhouse attendant, running errands for the players, getting them food and cleaning up around the clubhouse.

"It was a dream job for me," he said. "It was the best job in the world for a kid."

Then one day, he asked for a baseball and Fitzpatrick led him to the equipment room, which was a locked room away from anyone else in the

clubhouse, Crawford said.

"Everything happened fast. ... I couldn't tell anybody," he said.

Garabedian said Crawford has had trouble holding jobs, served a short stint in jail for a drug conviction and fathered five children with five women.

"I've been running from a lot of things," Crawford said.

Crawford, now 36, said he never told anyone about what happened until 2006, when he revealed the abuse to his mother. He said he

See **RED SOX**, Page 2B

GRIFFIN

From Page 1B

season; Southern California quarterback Matt Barkley; and record-breaking passer Case Keenum of Houston did not receive enough votes to be among the final five.

Ballots from the 926 voters, mostly media members and former winners, were due Monday evening.

Luck was the Heisman runner-up to Auburn's Cam Newton last year and passed up a chance to be the No. 1 pick in the NFL draft to return to Stanford for his junior season. From the moment he made the decision to stay in school in January, he became the odds-on favorite to win the big bronze statue.

Luck is looking to become Stanford's second Heisman winner, joining quarterback Jim Plunkett, who won in 1970.

"It would mean a lot," Luck said in an interview on ESPN. "I would mean a great deal for the university. Mean a lot to me and a great deal to the football program, as well."

He had another stellar season, passing for 3,170 yards with 35 touchdowns while leading the Cardinal to an 11-1 record and a second straight BCS bid. But the competition has been fierce and numerous contenders emerged.

The prognosticators now have Griffin as the most likely winner.

Heismanpundit.com, which has successfully predicted the past four winners with a straw poll of 13 voters, had Griffin as its top vote-getter on Monday. Luck was second and Richardson third. Stiffarmtrophy.com, which compiles ballots from voters who make their choices public and has predicted the past nine winners, had Griffin winning by a comfortable margin over Luck, with Richardson third.

Griffin leads the nation in passer rating (192.3), with 3,998 yards and 36 touchdowns. He has also run for 644 yards and nine touchdowns. And much like Luck, Griffin has led a long-struggling program to its greatest success in decades. Baylor is 9-3 this season, its first nine-win season since 1986, including its first victory against Oklahoma.

"Baylor nation we're in there," Griffin said. "Now we just got to try to snatch it. Hopefully the vote turns out our way."

"Being invited is an honor. It's not all that we want, but it's a starting spot."

The best showing a Baylor player has had in the Heisman voting was quarterback Don Trull's fourth-place finish in 1963.

Richardson has been the unquestioned offensive engine for No. 2 Alabama. He's fifth in the nation in rushing at 131.9 yards per game and tied for fifth in touchdowns with 23. Richardson and the Crimson Tide will meet Mathieu and LSU in the BCS championship game on Jan. 9 in New Orleans.

The sophomore cornerback is the second defensive player to be a Heisman finalist in the past three years. Defensive tackle Ndamukong Suh of Nebraska finished fourth in 2009.

Mathieu, though, is more like Charles Woodson, the do-it-all defensive back who won the 1997 Heisman for Michigan.

Mathieu has forced five fumbles, intercepted two passes and scored four touchdowns, including two long punt returns in LSU's past two games against Arkansas and Georgia.

CHARGERS

From Page 1B

happen this season. But Rivers never lost faith even though he leads the NFL in interceptions (17) and turnovers (21) and was a key part of the team's disappointing slide.

"It's been a rough six weeks," Rivers said. "I haven't put a complete game together, but I don't care about the numbers. I just want to win."

Rivers was nearly perfect against Jacksonville (3-9), adding to the team's tumultuous week.

He completed 22 of 28 passes — hooking up with Vincent Brown, Vincent Jackson and Malcom Floyd for long scores — before sitting out the final few minutes. Rivers finished with a 146.1 QB rating, by far his highest of the season.

The Chargers scored on five of their first six drives, then sent most of the home crowd scrambling for the exits with Ryan Mathews' 31-yard TD run in the fourth. Mathews ran 13 times for 112 yards.

"That's the type of chemistry coming into this season we knew we had," tight end Antonio Gates said. "We stayed on course despite what we've been through these last six weeks. That we were able to get a win tonight speaks volumes for this team."

It was a much-needed victory for a team that trails Denver and Oakland by two games in the AFC

West with four to play.

And it was another blow to the Jaguars, who endured the most sweeping changes in the 17-year history of the franchise last week.

Team owner Wayne Weaver fired coach Jack Del Rio and announced he was selling the club to Illinois businessman Shahid Khan. Interim coach Mel Tucker fired receivers coach Johnny Cox, reassigned quarterbacks coach Mike Sheppard and waived starting receiver Jason Hill.

The moves seemed to invigorate a franchise that had seemingly gone stale in Del Rio's ninth season. Fans showed up energized for a prime-time game that signaled the start of a new era. Some wore "Yes We Khan" T-shirts. Other donned fake mustaches to look like the owner-in-waiting.

It made little difference on the field, mostly because Jacksonville's defensive injuries proved too much to overcome.

The Jaguars played without their top three cornerbacks — Rashean Mathis, Derek Cox and Will Middleton — and lost safety Dwight Lowery (shoulder) and defensive end John Chick (knee) during the game.

"No excuses here," Tucker said. "We won't allow ourselves to go down that road."

Rivers took advantage of the injuries, picking on a pair of cornerbacks who were signed off the street in recent weeks.

Rivers threw two TD passes in the final 2:32 of the first half.

RED SOX

From Page 1B

hoped coming forward now would help other abuse victims who might have suffered in silence for years, as he did.

Garabedian, who represented hundreds of victims during the Boston clergy sex-abuse scandal, said the team's lawyers have asked to

meet with his clients.

"Baseball is not more important than protecting the lives of innocent children against predators," he said.

The second man now coming forward asked not to be identified. Garabedian said he is an educator and is married with children.

The man, who worked as a bat boy in 1991, was traveling with the Red Sox in Anaheim, Calif., when another club-

house attendant held a sign during a televised game that said, "Donald Fitzpatrick sexually assaulted me."

At the time, team officials said that Fitzpatrick decided to take an indefinite leave of absence. He never returned.

In a phone interview Monday, the man said Fitzpatrick fondled and groped him at least a half dozen times.

He said he remembers

some of the Red Sox players joking sarcastically about Fitzpatrick.

"They would say, 'Did Fitz touch your arm or did he touch your leg?' and then laugh," the man said.

"I think they were joking because they sensed something was odd, and I think they knew he was strange."

Crawford said he would like to meet with the team owners and get an apology.

NHL

From Page 1B

trips West. But it cuts down on travel for some Western teams, which was a critical issue for teams such as Detroit, Dallas, Columbus and Nashville.

Toronto general manager Brian Burke said he had concerns about the wear and tear the extra travel would have on his team, but approved the plan when he was assured by the league that the schedule would be more efficient with every team playing in every city.

"We try to vote with a league hat on when we can," he said. "Sometimes you have to vote with your team's interest in mind. There's times you can vote with the league hat on and that's what we tried to do."

The new look has two conferences with seven teams all based in the

Eastern time zone: New Jersey, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, New York Rangers, New York Islanders, Washington and Carolina in one, and Boston, Montreal, Toronto, Ottawa, Buffalo, Florida and Tampa Bay in the other.

The third conference consists of eight teams in the Eastern and Central time zones: Detroit, Columbus, Nashville, St. Louis, Chicago, Minnesota, Dallas and Winnipeg. The fourth conference has eight teams in the Mountain and Pacific time zones: Los Angeles, Anaheim, Phoenix, San Jose, Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton and Colorado.

The conferences have not been named.

"I think there were more than two or three teams not happy with the current situation," Columbus general manager Scott Howson said. "This was a compromise that really satisfies everybody to a large extent."

The league was able to keep rivals Pittsburgh and Philadelphia in the same conference by grouping the two Flori-

da teams with the three Canadian teams in the Eastern Conference, Boston and Buffalo.

"We don't have much input as players but I'm sure that they've worked every possible situation and it's like with anything, it's not going to fit everybody perfect but Florida in January's not too bad," Ottawa captain Daniel Alfredsson said following the Senators' 4-2 win over Tampa Bay.

Teams will play home-and-home series against all nonconference teams and five or six games in their conference.

The top four teams in each conference will make the playoffs, with the first two rounds consisting of solely intra-conference matchups. Bettman said he will consult with general managers in the spring before deciding whether to reseed the playoffs in the third round or to have predetermined matchups.

"But now, the Western teams don't have to leave the time zone every single time we have a road trip," Phoenix captain Shane Doan

said. "We leave our time zone every single time now."

Bettman said he liked the current format that he devised of six five-team divisions, but that Winnipeg's move from Atlanta forced some change.

He didn't take a stance on either proposal, but simply explained the pros and cons and allowed the teams to vote.

There was about an hour of discussion, and representatives from about a dozen teams spoke before the plan was approved.

Bettman said the NHLPA has expressed concerns about the new plan and that he will discuss it with union chief Donald Fehr before implementing it. Bettman said the change doesn't need union approval, a stance the NHLPA contests.

"Realignment requires an agreement between the league and the NHLPA," union spokesman Jonathan Weatherdon said.

"We look forward to continuing our discussions with the league regarding this matter."

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The Colorado River Municipal Water District and Garney Companies are soliciting supplier participation including those that qualify as SWMBE's for the following: Bid Package 4, Pre-Purchase of Electrical Equipment for the Ward County Water Supply Expansion Project. Bid Deadline is December 22, 2011 at 3:00 p.m. Bids will be received at CRMWD 400 E. 24th Street, Big Spring, TX 79721-0869 For more information contact Marcus Grace at (816)536-6485 or email mgrace@garney.com Garney Companies, Inc is an Equal Employment/Opportunity Employer. #7191 December 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22, 2011

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The Colorado River Municipal Water District and Garney Companies are soliciting supplier participation including those that qualify as SWMBE's for the following: Bid Package 5, Slab and Below Construction for the Ward County Water Supply Expansion Project. Bid Deadline is December 22, 2011 at 3:30 p.m. Bids will be received at CRMWD 400 E. 24th Street, Big Spring, TX 79721-0869 For more information contact Marcus Grace at (816)536-6485 or email mgrace@garney.com Garney Companies, Inc is an Equal Employment/Opportunity Employer. #7192 December 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22, 2011

Tomorrow's Horoscope

If ever there was a time to lose sight of the big picture, it's now. The big picture can be needlessly daunting. Right now, it's enough just to trust that there is one. Progress happens one step at a time. The moon will have a grounding influence on our emotions as she enters Taurus. What was overwhelming seems suddenly doable.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You can rely on other people to do what they said they would do, though you may have to issue friendly reminders. Also, make sure everyone is clear about what the task at hand really is.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You don't need to be told what to do or who to be, and you'll likely reject anyone who tries to guide you in this manner. But the one who tells you

how to do a job well will get your attention and respect.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You can help others out and still have fun; you just have to get organized. When you think it through first, you'll put things together in a way that will help you get the most enjoyment out of your life.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Though there are moments when you feel uncared for, there are more moments in which you realize you're being taken care of on all levels. It's as though some unseen force is putting you in the right place at the right time.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll get the opportunity to show people what you can do best. And if you step up and let your talent be seen, more such opportunities will arise in the near future.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). There is not always a cure for what ails you, but sometimes the way you deal with a problem is even better than a

cure. A system of management may now give you fresh life and vitality.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). People will try to put things in perspective for you, but that probably won't work. Who are they to tell you how to feel? If it's important to you, then it's important, period.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You see an opportunity, and yet this is no easy feat. You won't be able to simply "let it happen" on this one. If you want it to happen, you'll have to make it happen.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Some people are disturbed by thoughts of the future. Not you. You know it will be better than the present because you keep getting more and more savvy about how to make it so.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). There's so much you take for granted about your own talents and strengths. You need someone to hold a mirror up to you. Also, glimpsing into another

person's life will make you feel more connected to your own.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're farther along in a project than you thought you'd be at this time. With a little more organization and the helping hand of a friend, you can finish this up or at least bring it to a workable end as early as tomorrow.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Life presents itself to you, and you feel the privilege in this. Your breath, your thoughts and fantasies, the filling of your senses — it's all a gift that you keep unwrapping.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 6). You will enjoy a harmonious existence with others. January brings the energetic jolt of exciting new ideas. Through spring, your domestic life will transform into a more organized and uplifting scene. June shows you on the receiving end of praise and awards. Family closeness will be the source of future happy memories. Taurus

and Leo people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 20, 14, 38, 19 and 50.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: "I almost had a psychic girlfriend, but she left me before we met," says the mind-bending comedian Steven Wright. This avant-garde humor springs from a Sagittarian born when Mercury was also in the open, curious, independent-thinking station of Sagittarius. Wright also has natal Uranus and Pluto both in the entertaining sign of Leo.

If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Holiday Mathis and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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Dear Annie: My husband and I have three adult sons. The oldest and youngest are married, but the middle son (age 56) is not. He has his own house in our neighborhood and has had a younger man living with him for many years. We assume our son is gay, which is fine, but he has never admitted it.

The last time we saw our son was Father's Day. I sent him a birthday card in late July and asked why we haven't heard from him. I reassured him that we love him. I received no response. We then called and left phone messages twice. Still no word.

When we do get together, our son is friendly, pleasant and charming. However, we are hurt and disappointed that he never invites us over, nor does he keep in touch other than a few times a year. Should we just accept this behavior or confront him in person by showing up at his home? — *Pariahs, Not Parents*

Dear Parents: Oh, please don't do that. Some children are not comfortable having their

parents over, and an unexpected visit would likely make matters worse.

If you believe the "younger man" is his partner, we hope you have welcomed both of them to your home. Your son might appreciate your acceptance of this man as part of his life, and it may make him more amenable to closer contact.

But our main concern is whether your son is OK. Is it unusual not to have heard from him since June, despite your birthday card and phone messages? You might want to call once more and tell him you are worried about his well-being.

Dear Annie: I remember all of the letters about how to hang the toilet paper. I have a different question on the subject.

Several of my friends just prop the roll of toilet paper on top of the cylinder instead of sticking the roller through the hole in the paper. People then pick up the roll with their hands and remove as much as they need. This

Annie's Mailbox



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

might not be so bad, except that some people use the roll more than once on the same bathroom visit. Also, sometimes the toilet paper is dropped on the floor before being re-propped.

Several times I have made remarks regarding how unhealthy this habit may be, but they just laugh. Although they are otherwise hygienic, these people seem to have more upset stomachs than our other friends.

When I visit their houses, I carry folded toilet paper in my purse in order to avoid using their well-handled rolls. They tease me for being

germophobic, saying everyone washes their hands before leaving the bathroom. But what if they first brush the hair out of their eyes or touch their mouths before washing their contaminated hands? Is this healthy? — *One Who Wants the Tissue Hung Properly*

Dear Tissue: This seems less an issue of hygiene than one of laziness. We are unaware of any studies that differentiate between using a propped-up roll of toilet paper versus one on a roller. But we can tell you that the probability of having the roll fall on the floor (or in the toilet) makes it automatically less sanitary than using the roller. And by the way, it is highly unlikely that all those who use the bathroom wash their hands with soap and water before leaving.

Dear Annie: "Cool Grandma Doesn't Care" said her mother-in-law is encouraging her adult daughter to share sleeping arrangements with her live-in boyfriend, even though Mom and Dad

disapprove. You said Grandma can do what she wants in her own home.

What about the daughter and her boyfriend respecting her parents' wishes regardless of where they sleep? The boyfriend should do the right thing. Better to make a possible future mother-in-law happy than Grandma. — *El Segundo, Calif.*

Dear El: That would be exceptionally gracious, but Mom cannot force him to do it, and her daughter doesn't seem inclined to ask.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Ste. 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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	Midland	Spanish	Odessa	Odessa	Telenovela	Midland	Atlanta	Odessa	Odessa	Odessa	Discovery	Classics	Spike TV	Atlanta	Black Ent.	Disney	Sports	Sports	
5:PM	News ABC	Alma Notic.	Big Bang	News CBS	Noticias	News CBS	King	Scrivner	News Curious	Til Death	American	Movie: Ad-	Auction	Bones	106 & Park:	Shake It	NFL32	SportsCenter	
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Cuando Me	Two Men	News Ent	Caso Cer-	News Ent	King	Uri Harel	PBS News-	Seinfeld	American	Movie: A	Auction	Bones	BET's Top 10	ANT Farm	Women's	College	
7:PM	Wheel	Familia-	Glee	NCIS	Una Maid en	Millionaire	King	Mark Blitz	Hour	Seinfeld	Chopper	Movie: A	Auction	Bones	Live	Jessie	College	Basketball	
8:PM	Middle	Fuerza-Des-	New Girl	NCIS: Los	Flor Salvaje	The Biggest	King	L. Moore	Great Per-	Seinfeld	Chopper	Movie: A	Auction	Bones	Movie: B.A.P.S. Ian	Nightmare-	College	Basketball:	
9:PM	Body of	Aquí y Ahora	Simpsons	Unforgettable	La Casa de	Losers	King	Light of the	Performances:	Seinfeld	Chopper	Movie: A	Auction	Bones	Re.- Lines	ANT Farm	NFL Live	College	
10:PM	News	Impacto	How I Met	News	Noticias	News	King	Chevalme	Greatest	Seinfeld	Chopper	Movie: A	Auction	Bones	Re.- Lines	Jessie	NFL Live	SportsCenter	
11:PM	News	Noticiero	Raymond	Letterman	Sin Senos no	Jay Leno	King	Office	World	Seinfeld	Chopper	Movie: A	Auction	Bones	Re.- Lines	Austin	Good	NFL Live	SportsCenter
12:AM	Extra	Mañana-	Raymond	Law Order:	Decisiones	Late Night	King	Office	Roseanne	Seinfeld	Chopper	Movie: A	Auction	Bones	Re.- Lines	Wendy Wil-	Wizards	Baseball	SportsCenter
1AM	Paid	La Jaula	American	Ent	Pagado	(:06) Today	King	Office	Roseanne	Seinfeld	Chopper	Movie: A	Auction	Bones	Re.- Lines	Wendy Wil-	Wizards	Baseball	SportsCenter
2AM	Paid	Par Ases	TMZ	Paid	Empresa		King	Office	Roseanne	Seinfeld	Chopper	Movie: A	Auction	Bones	Re.- Lines	Wendy Wil-	Wizards	Baseball	SportsCenter

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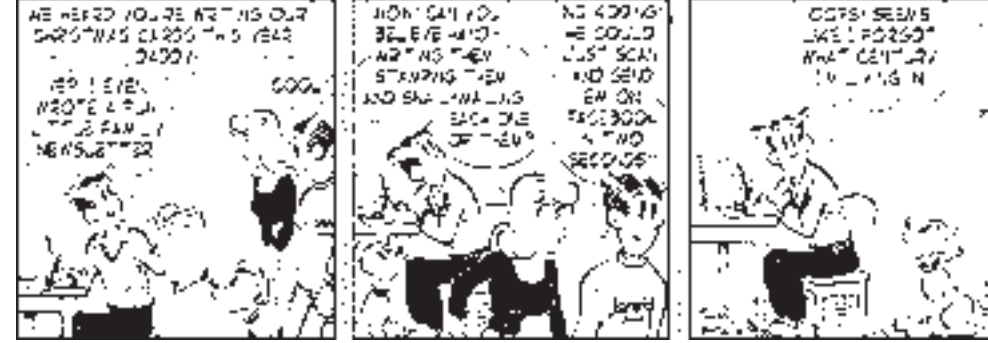
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This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, Dec. 6, the 340th day of 2011. There are 25 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

- On Dec. 6, 1921, the Anglo-Irish Treaty, which established the Irish Free State, was signed in London. (The treaty came into force one year later on this date.)
- On this date:
 - In 1790, Congress moved to Philadelphia from New York.
 - In 1884, Army engineers completed construction of the Washington Monument by setting an aluminum capstone atop the obelisk.
 - In 1889, Jefferson Davis, the first and only president of the Confederate States of America, died in New Orleans.
 - In 1907, the worst mining disaster in U.S. history occurred as 362 men and boys died in a coal mine explosion in Monongah, W.Va.
 - In 1917, some 2,000 people died when an explosives-laden French cargo ship collided with a Norwegian vessel at the harbor in Halifax, Nova Scotia, setting off a blast that devastated the city.
 - In 1947, Everglades National Park in Florida was dedicated by President Harry S. Truman.
 - In 1957, America's first attempt at putting a satellite into orbit failed as Vanguard TV3 rose about four feet off a Cape Canaveral launch pad before crashing down and exploding.
 - In 1960, nearly 9 million acres of Alaska was set aside as an Arctic National Wildlife Range by order of Interior Secretary Fred A. Seaton.
 - In 1971, the original Auto-Train, which carried rail passengers and their motor vehicles from Lorton, Va., to Sanford, Fla., went into operation. (Although the privately owned line went out of business in 1981, Amtrak revived the service in 1983.)
 - In 1989, 14 women were shot to death at the University of Montreal's school of engineering by a man who then took his own life.

Today's Birthdays: Jazz musician Dave Brubeck is 91. Comedy performer David

Ossman is 75. Actor Patrick Bauchau is 73. Country singer Helen Cornelius is 70. Actor James Naughton is 66. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood is 66. Rhythm-and-blues singer Frankie Beverly (Maze) is 65. Former Sen. Don Nickles, R-Okla., is 63. Actress JoBeth Williams is 63. Actor Tom Hulce is 58. Actor Kin Shriner is 58. Actor Wil Shriner is 58. Actor Miles Chapin is 57. Rock musician Rick Buckler (The Jam) is 56. Comedian Steven Wright is 56. Country singer Bill Lloyd is 56. Singer Tish Hinojosa is 56. Rock musician Peter Buck (R.E.M.) is 55. Rock musician David Lovering (Pixies) is 50. Actress Janine Turner is 49.

Answer to previous puzzle:
 BAWM CLUMP CAWS
 UTAH MENDS AWOL
 YOYO INGOT SAME
 SNOWUNDER THREE
 EPA MOMENT
 INTRO LEASE
 DOE MOSILY AWOL
 LEAVES OF ARSENIC
 ELSE OUTLET TAN
 HALLS OPENS
 STPETE SIR
 THEME DUST COVER
 RODE DUMNO FIVE
 ASAN UNION FIVE
 PELT GETBY TENS

Newsday Crossword

WHO'S THE BOSS? by Bill e Traft
 Edited by Stanley Newman
 www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

- 1 Historical periods
- 5 Synagogue leader
- 10 Mini-play
- 14 Tug-of-war cry
- 15 Eyeball-bending painting genre
- 16 Office assistant
- 17 Castaway's spot
- 18 Loans materia
- 19 The "T" in TV
- 20 The boss
- 23 In addition
- 24 Do wrong
- 25 Bar bill
- 28 Keep separate
- 32 Stop-sign color
- 35 To no (useless)
- 37 The boss
- 39 German city
- 40 Pterid
- 41 Prefix meaning "coposed"
- 42 The boss
- 44 Pro hoopster, for short
- 45 Fabric measures: Abbr.
- 46 Ranch's extent
- 48 Take a taste of
- 49 A'C measure
- 50 Fish eggs
- 52 The boss
- 60 Inside this env.
- 61 Full of wonder
- 62 Cake decorator
- 63 Humdinger
- 64 Off the broadcast schedule

DOWN

- 1 Sweeping saga
- 2 Hurry
- 3 "That's ask"
- 4 Frozen rain
- 5 Cowboy shows
- 6 Pinnacle
- 7 Cause of ruin
- 8 A-brac
- 9 "I'm sure that's true"
- 10 Lustrous fabric
- 11 Capital of Ukraine
- 12 Not working
- 13 Summer shirt
- 21 Aluminum wrap
- 22 "yellow ribbon..."
- 25 Surpce housecat
- 26 Keep away from
- 27 Firecranker sounds
- 29 Furry river swimmer
- 30 Off the beach
- 31 Copped grade a court deal
- 32 Charged toward
- 33 Go inside
- 34 Milk farm
- 36 Corporation abbr.
- 38 Take into custody
- 40 Making sale
- 43 Desp se
- 44 S'gn gas
- 47 Salad veggies
- 49 Pretty good grade
- 51 Fixes a manuscript
- 52 Cold-shoulder
- 53 West Coast sch.
- 54 "Are you out?"
- 55 Western alliance
- 56 Pairs
- 57 Canyon sound
- 58 -do-well
- 59 See 60 Down
- 60 With 59 Down, source of shade

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13
 14 15 16
 17 18 19
 20 21 22
 23 24
 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34
 35 36 37 38
 39 40 41
 42 43 44
 45 46 47 48
 49 50 51
 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59
 60 61 62
 63 64 65
 66 67 68 69

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